

(d) what further steps Government propose to take to encourage NRI's in the field of Agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) NRI Investment in land-based activities such as real estate, agriculture and plantation, is not permitted, at present.

Expenditure on Staff car

2103. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that expenditure on staff cars of Central Ministries/attached offices have gone up considerably in spite of 5 day week in the Ministries during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the expenditure incurred since 1984 on staff cars Ministry-wise and the details of new staff cars added to the previous strength;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in spite of Government instructions to make economy in the fuel consumption there is a sharp increase in fuel consumption;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of cases reported detected for malpractices, theft of petrol, misuse of cars etc; and

(f) what action Government propose to curb the unhealthy expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (f) The information is not readily available with this Ministry. The same

is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it becomes available.

Loan applications received by Indian Bank from Physically Handicapped

2104. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from physically handicapped for loan by Indian Bank, Alava branch, district Cuttak (Orissa) during March and April 1986;

(b) the number of those sanctioned loans and the amount in each case;

(c) the number of applications pending and rejected and the reasons thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to finalise the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on Table of the House to the extent possible.

Loan applications of riot widow

2105. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a news item "The travails of a riot widow" published in Statesman of 17th April, 1987 regarding loan application forwarded to the Punjab National Bank by the Delhi Administration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) steps being taken to speedily locate the papers and decision taken on the application?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.